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VIA FACSIMILE

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Re: Signed copy of declaration 3 Pages
Serial No.: 10/064,098

CONFIDENTIAL
ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION

The information contained in this facsimile transmission is confidential. This information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, we ask that you please notify us immediately by telephone and return this document to us.

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IBM Docket No. BUR920010150US1
EXPRESS LABEL # EF255372948US

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **A METHOD FOR IMPROVING CHIP YIELDS IN THE PRESENCE OF VIA FLARING**

the specification of which:
(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____, as Application Serial No. _____ and was amended on _____.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Applications:

Serial No.	Filing Date	Status
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Mark F. Chadrjian (Reg. No. 30,739), Richard M. Koutrak (Reg. No. 27,712), James M. Leas (Reg. No. 34,372), William D. Sabo (Reg. No. 27,465), Eugene J. Shurko (Reg. No. 36,678), Robert A. Walsh (Reg. No. 26,516), Howard J. Walter, Jr. (Reg. No. 24,832), Richard A. Hendler (Reg. No. 39,220), Stanley B. Green (Reg. No. 24,351), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. No. 26,914), John B. Hoel (Reg. No. 26,279), Joseph C. Redmond, Jr. (Reg. No. 18,753), Sean M. McGinn (Reg. No. 34,386), and Frederick W. Gibb, III (Reg. No. 37,629).

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